<u>WHAT IS CLAIMED IS</u>:

1. A method of creating a family tree, comprising:
    receiving a request from a user to return a file comprising the family tree;
    using a plurality of primary source records to construct the family tree based on the request, wherein the records indicate multiple alternatives for at least one branch of the family tree;
    sending a file comprising the family tree to the user, wherein the file comprises the alternatives.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein an alternative results from a difference relating to a selection from the group consisting of spelling, place, date, event relationship, ancestor, spouse, and children.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising, providing an opportunity for the user to select among the alternatives.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
    receiving a selection from among the alternatives from the user;
    storing the selection;
    using the selection to revise the family tree; and
    sending a file comprising the revised family tree to the user.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising, using the selection to provide an alternative to another user.

6. The method of claim 4, further comprising, thereafter receiving a non-contemporaneous request from the user to view the family tree;
    using the stored selection to construct the family tree; and
    sending a file comprising the family tree to the user, wherein the family tree comprises the revised family tree.

7. The method of claim 4, further comprising, thereafter, receiving additional genealogy data that creates new alternatives in the family tree; and
    notifying the user of the new alternatives.

1   8.   The method of claim 7, wherein notifying the user comprises sending

2 the user an email.

1   9.   The method of claim 7, wherein notifying the user comprises sending

2 the user a file comprising the family tree, wherein the file includes a new alternatives symbol.

1   10.   The method of claim 9, further comprising:

2   receiving a request from the user to view the new alternatives;

3   sending a file to the user comprising the new alternatives;

4   receiving a selection from among the new alternatives from the user;

5   using the selection to construct a revised family tree; and

6   sending a file comprising the revised family tree to the user.

1   11.   A system for creating a family tree, comprising a processor

2 programmed to:

3   receive a request from a user to return a file comprising the family tree;

4   use a plurality of primary source records to construct the family tree based on

5 the request, wherein the records indicate multiple alternatives for at least one branch of the

6 family tree;

7   send a file comprising the family tree to the user, wherein the file comprises

8 the alternatives.

1   12.   The system of claim 11, wherein an alternative results from a

2 difference relating to a selection from the group consisting of spelling, place, date, event

3 relationship, ancestor, spouse, and children.

1   13.   The system of claim 11, wherein the processor is further programmed

2 to provide an opportunity for the user to select among the alternatives.

1   14.   The system of claim 13, wherein the processor is further programmed

2 to:

3   receive a selection from among the alternatives from the user;

4   store the selection;

5   use the selection to revise the family tree; and

6   send a file comprising the revised family tree to the user.

1   15.   The system of claim 14, wherein the processor is further programmed
2   to use the selection to provide an alternative to another user.

1   16.   The system of claim 14, wherein the processor is further programmed
2   to:
3   thereafter receive a non-contemporaneous request from the user to view the
4   family tree;
5   use the stored selection to construct the family tree; and
6   send a file comprising the family tree to the user, wherein the family tree
7   comprises the revised family tree.

1   17.   The system of claim 14, wherein the processor is further programmed
2   to receive additional genealogy data that creates new alternatives in the family tree; and
3   notify the user of the new alternatives.

1   18.   The system of claim 17, wherein in being programmed to notify the
2   user of the new alternatives, the processor is further programmed to send the user an email.

1   19.   The system of claim 17, wherein in being programmed to notify the
2   user of the new alternatives the processor is further programmed to send the user a file
3   comprising the family tree, wherein the file includes a new alternatives symbol.